

From: [Cogliano, Vincent](#)
To: [Kohler, James](#)
Cc: [Grifo, Francesca](#); [Hawkins, CherylA](#); [Otto, Martha](#)
Subject: Disposition of OIG-2015-0375
Date: Friday, August 24, 2018 2:19:08 PM

Hello Jim—I'd normally send messages like this to Clay, so please make sure this gets to the correct person.

On September 22, 2015, your office referred OIG Hotline complaint 2015-0375 to Francesca Grifo. The complaint involved a proactive investigation by the OIG in which (b) (6) [REDACTED] proposals from FY2013 were reviewed for plagiarism by a document-comparison service.

The Scientific Integrity Program has reviewed the files provided by your office, which contained the proposals that had the highest matches of text from other published documents. In our review, we found, in most cases, the grant authors had cited the documents which contained the matching text, but had not properly indicated that the text was a direct quote. A few cases, however, showed more serious problems.

Francesca Grifo and I recently met with the (b) (6) [REDACTED] of the (b) (6) [REDACTED], which administers the (b) (6) [REDACTED] grants program, to discuss the issue of plagiarism in grant applications. The Scientific Integrity Program will be working with (b) (6) [REDACTED] to develop language regarding the importance of proper citation to include in the application materials.

The Scientific Integrity Program now considers the allegation from OIG Hotline 2015-0375 closed.

Vince Cogliano

Office of the Science Advisor
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW (8105R)
Washington DC 20460

tel 202-564-4313